

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment in which the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii), a marked-up version showing the amendments thereto is attached. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe the case is now in condition for examination.

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

May 22, 2001

Date _____

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Changes to page 22, first paragraph, are as follows:

~~Fig-Figs.~~ 12(a)-12(d) are graphs showing ~~relationship~~relationships between elasticity maintenance percentage and displacement amount with respect to each kind of ~~an~~-elastic body.

Changes to page 22, tenth paragraph, are as follows:

~~Fig-Figs.~~ 21(a)-21(c) ~~is~~are top views showing an embodiment of a bus bar in an assembly of lithium battery cells which comprises a plurality of lithium secondary cells and a plurality of bus bars of the present invention.